

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PARIS 14218 132112Z
ACTION PM-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 H-01 INR-07 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06
ERDA-05 ACDA-07 OES-07 OMB-01 /078 W
-----140922Z 110806 /11

R 132040Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2807
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON
USMISSION NATO
SECDEF
CNO
USCINCEUR
CINCUSNAVEUR
CINCLANTFLT
USNMR SHAPE

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 14218

MILITARY ADDRESSEES ALSO FOR POLAD

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: MARR, MNUC, FR
SUBJ: NUCLEAR POWERED WARSHIP (NPW) VISITS TO FRANCE

REF: STATE 104399 DTG 070137Z MAY '77

1. SUMMARY: FRENCH HOPE TO HAVE RESPONSE ON NPW
VISITS "IN NEAR FUTURE." PRELIMINARY INDICATIONS ARE
THAT ADDITIONAL EXCHANGES WILL BE REQUIRED. END SUMMARY.

2. ON MAY 13 EMBOFF CALLED ON LOUET, COUNSELOR IN
FOREIGN MINISTRY'S OFFICE OF SCIENTIFIC AFFAIRS, TO
PRESENT US POSITION CONTAINED IN REFTEL. EMBASSY
OFFICER NOTED THAT CONSIDERABLE AMOUNT OF TIME HAS
LAPSED SINCE US POSITION ON NPW VISITS WAS PRESENTED
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PAGE 02 PARIS 14218 132112Z

TO QUAI IN JANUARY. EMBOFF LEFT WITH LOUET COPY OF
TALING POINTS WHICH CONTAIN ESSENCE OF POINTS A, B,
AND C, OF RETEL.

3. LOUET RESPONDED THAT HE WAS EMBARRASSED BY DELAY
IN FRENCH RESPONSE. HE SAID THAT TIME HAS BEEN
REQUIRED FOR DETAILED EXAMINATION OF US PRESENTATION

BY QUAI LEGAL DEPARTMENT. LOUET, SPEAKING PERSONALLY AND EMPHASIZING THAT HIS REMARKS WERE NOT DEFINITIVE FRENCH RESPONSE, SAID THAT CURRENT POSITION OF GOF LAWYERS IS THAT FRENCH LAW GOVERNING NPW VISITS IS CLEAR. WHATEVER THE GOOD POLITICAL REASONS ARGUING FOR NPQ ACCESS TO FRENCH PORTS, ANY SOLUTION MUST ADHERE TO THE FRENCH LAW.

4. LOUET NOTED THAT , AS POINTED OUT IN US JANUARY POSITION, INSURANCE IS NOT RELEVANT IN THE CONTEXT OF WARSHIPS. INDEED FRENCH WARSHIPS DO NOT CARRY INSURANCE. HOWEVER, THE FRENCH LAW REQUIRES INSURANCE ACCORDING TO QUAI JUDICIARY SECTION. EMBOFF INTERJECTED THAT THIS WAS QUITE A CONTRADICTION. LOUET AGREED BUT SAID THAT FOREIGN MINISTRY WILL CONTINUE TO STUDY THE ISSUE IN A ATTEMPT TO FIND A RESOLUTION. EMBOFF ASKED IF INSURANCE ISSUE WAS THE MAJOR OBSTACLE TO RESOLUTION. LOUET SAID THAT IT IS NOT THE ONLY PROBLEM THE LAWYERS FIND. THE MAJOR OBSTACLE IS THE TEXT OF THE FRENCH LAW. REVISION OF THE LAW IS OUT OF THE QUESTION GIVEN THE CURRENT POLITICAL CLIMATE IN FRANCE.

5. LOUET SAID THAT PARTICULAR DATES FROM NIMITZ DEPLOYMENT AND SSN PARTICIPATION IN NOVEMBER EXERCISE GIVE TANGIBILITY TO QUAI STUDY OF THE QUESTION. HE WOULD USE THESE DATES TO PRESS THE LAWYERS TO COME UP WITH A RESPONSE IN THE "NEAR FUTURE." EMBOFF ASKED HOW SOON THAT WILL BE. LOUET RESPONDED THAT IT IS CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 03 PARIS 14218 132112Z

IMPOSSIBLE TO PREDICT BUT WITH US AND UK PRESSING, QUAI WILL HAVE TO RESPOND SOON. HOWEVER, HE ASSUMED THAT FURTHER EXCHANGES WILL BE REQUIRED AFTER QUAI RESPONSE.
GAMMON

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Litigation History:
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